

Message

From: Kavanagh, Julie A [/O=OCRPS/OU=EXTERNAL (FYDIBOHF25SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=73BF57FB3B0445B080F64610653C2DF2]
Sent: 1/31/2022 7:23:30 PM
To: Anderson, Michael J [andersonm@ottawapolice.ca]; Steinbachs, John [steinbachsj@ottawapolice.ca]
Subject: RE: Draft messaging for A/DC Ferguson

Unclassified

For your info only, I thought this was nice messaging from the school board in an email they sent out yesterday:

These past few days may have been challenging for many in our community. We believe in freedom of speech, but words and symbols like Confederate flags and swastikas promote hate, instill fear and are intolerable. These events are a reminder of the urgency of our work in teaching about dignity, respect and human rights. If you are responding to questions from children, this information from [our website \[track.spe.schoolmessenger.com\]](https://www.track.spe.schoolmessenger.com) about how to discuss difficult issues may be helpful.

From: Anderson, Michael J <AndersonM@ottawapolice.ca>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 2:17 PM
To: Steinbachs, John <Steinbachsj@ottawapolice.ca>; Kavanagh, Julie A <KavanaghJ@ottawapolice.ca>
Cc: Ferguson, Patricia K <FergusonP@ottawapolice.ca>; Rheume, Christopher <RheumeC@ottawapolice.ca>
Subject: Draft messaging for A/DC Ferguson
Unclassified

Here you go. For your review and modification.

We understand the growing frustration of residents, particularly around traffic disruptions and noise. To date, we have had one arrest, and have laid numerous charges. There was an isolated incident this morning whereby an individual struck an OPS vehicle with their truck. That situation has been diffused and an individual has been charged with reckless driving.

This said and as of this moment... we have been successful in working with City staff, law enforcement partners, and stakeholders at all levels of government in limiting acts of violence, mischief and destruction of property, and we have had no major incidents, injury, or loss of life. Parliamentary access has remained open. This despite the risk of escalation being high all weekend. We would like to thank our City and law enforcement partners, and the businesses and residents of Ottawa for their continued cooperation and patience during this trying time.

This demonstration is unique for a number of reasons. It involves thousands of demonstrators and hundreds of vehicles that have descended on the Nations Capital for a multitude of reasons. Those that are here are representing and supported by others from across the province, nation, and in some cases, those living outside of Canada.

100% of police resources are tied up with the demo downtown or are providing emergency services to the rest of city; members are stretched and were tired before this and are more so now, same with citizens and businesses and with demonstrators. Patience is low across the board and there are therefore risk implications in the short, medium and long term should there be direct intervention, especially a risk of physical conflict that has the potential to cause ripples across the country. We must be cautious and purposeful in how we proceed.

We understand that there are delays and gaps in services, and where and when possible we are moving police resources from the demonstration site to support local businesses, hotels, and residents. We are thankful to the many law enforcement services, municipal, provincial, and federal, who have come to Ottawa to support us in our efforts to do so and will continue to support us in the days ahead.

Moving forward, it is important for residents to understand that disruptions are likely to continue for the foreseeable future. We continue to work with demonstration organizers and our partners to ensure that these disruptions are as limited as possible, and that these disruptions begin to ease. We have assessed that there are 400-500 demonstrators remaining and who are congregated in the Wellington Street / Elgin area, and around 50 on Parliament Hill as of last check.

To this end, we have been able to re-open the George Etienne Parkway, and an emergency lane has been opened on westbound SJAM. Elsewhere we do continue to have a significant number of trucks and vehicles parked, though a number of them did depart overnight.

The Portage Bridge is closed to Ontario bound traffic, the Chaudiere bridge is open to Ontario bound traffic but only for emergency and health care workers. The Alexandria Bridge remains closed and all other bridges are open, though congested.